

**EXTRA**  
Largest  
Paper



**The Weather**  
Today: Sunny, 73°F (23°C)  
Tonight: Clear, 51°F (12°C)  
Tomorrow: Sunny, 75°F (24°C)

Volume 121, Number 42 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 Wednesday, September 12, 2001

## United States Rocked by Terrorist Attacks

### Hijacked Airliners Crash into Pentagon, World Trade Center

By Michael Grunwald  
THE WASHINGTON POST

Terrorists unleashed an astonishing air assault on America's military and financial power centers Tuesday morning, hijacking four commercial jets and then crashing them into the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon, and the Pennsylvania countryside.

It was by far the most devastating terrorist operation in American history, killing at least hundreds and possibly thousands of people. It was also the most dramatic attack on American soil since Pearl Harbor. The attacks created indelible scenes of carnage and chaos, obliterating the World Trade Center's twin 110-story towers from their familiar perch above Manhattan's skyline, grounding the domestic air traffic system for the first time, and plunging the entire nation into an unparalleled state of anxiety.

U.S. military forces at home and around the world were put on a "go to war" footing, the highest state of alert next to actual military action. The Pentagon deployed a loose air defense network of warships along the west and east coasts, as well as an unspecified number of interceptor and reconnaissance aircraft to hunt for unauthorized planes and missiles.

#### Flights from Logan used in attack

The terrorists hijacked four California-bound flights from three airports on the Eastern Seaboard, suggesting a well-financed,



The World Trade Center collapsed Tuesday morning after two aircraft originating from Logan Airport in Boston crashed into its twin towers.

well-coordinated plot.

First, two jets slammed into the World Trade Center. Then an American Airlines flight out of Dulles International Airport ripped through

was commandeered and turned in the direction of Washington.

None of the 266 people aboard the four planes survived. There were even more horrific but still uncounted casualties in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, which together provided office space for more than 60,000 people. The spectacular collapse of the Trade Center's twin towers, as well as a third skyscraper while the rescue operations were going on, caused even more bloodshed; about 200 New York firefighters and at least 78 police officers are presumed dead.

#### Terrorists remain unidentified

No one claimed responsibility for the attacks, but federal officials said they suspect the involvement of Islamic extremists with links to fugitive terrorist Osama bin Laden, who was implicated in the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa and several other attacks. Law enforcement sources said there is already evidence implicating Bin Laden's militant network in the attack, and politicians from both parties predicted a major and immediate escalation in America's worldwide war against terrorism.

In a grim address to the nation Tuesday night, President Bush said "thousands" had died in the attacks, and promised to hunt down those responsible. "We will make no distinction," he said, "between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them."

The president said the attacks were intended "to frighten our nation" but had failed. He vowed that the government would continue to function uninterrupted and that

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## MIT Helps Campus Handle Tragedy

By Jennifer Krishnan  
NEWS EDITOR

As MIT watched yesterday's horrors in New York and Washington, D.C. unfold on televisions across campus, administrators and support staff mobilized to help students cope with the disaster.

"It's the same stunned disbelief as the disbelief at Kennedy's assassination," said Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert.

As the news filtered through the halls of the Institute, MIT's Emergency Response Team, comprised of senior MIT leadership, met to discuss what actions the administration should take.

#### Institute carries on with classes

The team, led by Executive Vice President John R. Curry, decided not to cancel classes yesterday. Several other local colleges, including Harvard University, were closed.

Administrators decided to keep the Institute open yesterday and again today in order to help bring students, faculty, and staff together to cope with the attacks.

"We want to give people the chance to be together and to talk," said Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine. "Faculty and staff, to the extent possible, should be available" to students dur-

Reaction, Page 4

## Daniel M. Lewin



Daniel M. Lewin

Daniel M. Lewin SM '98, a member of the Laboratory for Computer Science and co-founder of Akamai Technologies, was among those killed in yesterday's attack on the World Trade Center. Lewin was on board American Airlines Flight 11 from Boston to Los Angeles when it crashed yesterday in New York city. He was 31 years old.

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science David R. Karger, who co-authored a paper with Lewin, said of him: "I have never encountered anyone with the combination of brilliance and drive that he had."

In a statement, Akamai chairman and CEO George H. Conrades said, "Danny was a wonderful human being. He will be deeply missed by his many friends at Akamai. Our thoughts and prayers are with Danny's family, friends and colleagues during this time of national tragedy and personal loss."

Interim Director of LCS Victor W. Zue called on the LCS community yesterday to join in a moment of silence.

Lewin was a graduate student at LCS when he developed technology that enabled content on the world wide web to be delivered more quickly. That technology formed the basis for Akamai Technologies, which was one of the early stars of the Internet economy. Lewin founded Akamai along with Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science F. Thomson Leighton; many MIT students and faculty were among the first employees of Akamai. It was, in large part, Lewin's research into speeding the delivery of web content which enabled popular web sites to deliver news of yesterday's events, despite overwhelming demand. Lewin was able to turn his research into reality in a way that made an impact on the world, Karger said.

In the two years before he left MIT to found Akamai, Lewin authored a number of papers in the area of theoretical computer science. Karger said that it was "already clear he was going to be of the first caliber as an academic." While emphasizing the loss to Lewin's family, he said that "the amount of lost accomplishment in that one person was tremendous."

Lewin is survived by his wife and two sons.

## Community Gathers for Evening Vigil

### Campus Religious Leaders, Administrators Offer Help, Direction

By Eun J. Lee  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The MIT community came together on the steps of the Stratton Student Center for a vigil yesterday evening, after news of terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C. spread across campus.

"There are no words that can capture the sadness and pain we all feel about the attacks in Washington and New York this morning," said Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 as he began the vigil.

Clay read a statement from President Charles M. Vest, who was out of the country. As a result of the cancellation of all airline travel in the U.S., Vest is unable to return to MIT.

"My prayers are with all who are touched by this tragedy," Vest said in his statement. "I am confident that we will be able to sustain each other through this heart-wrenching time."

Vest's message also asserted that as a community and individuals, "we are not powerless before this sadness."

#### Students urged to give blood

Vest's speech encouraged members of the MIT community to help victims of the attack by giving



Erin N. Sweeney SM '01 and son, Ian, drop a written prayer into a basket at yesterday's Student Center vigil, held to reflect on the recent terrorist attacks.

blood, reaching out to others at MIT who are new to the area or from foreign countries, and reaching out to friends who are frightened, discouraged, or sad.

Following Clay's speech, student members of various campus religious groups each took turns reading scriptures and prayers. These students represented Christian, Hindu, Jewish, and Muslim faiths.

The prayers were followed with an address by Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict, who urged students to share emotions and not be alone.

"Each person has a responsibility to come together to show each other how important we are to each other in this community," Benedict said.

Vigil, Page 4



# OPINION

## Community in the Wake of Tragedy

Yesterday's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon resulted in terrible losses of human life and irreparable damage to America's sense of security. Our condolences go out to the victims of this terrible tragedy, as well as to their friends and family.

### Editorial

*The Tech* commends MIT's administration for its immediate and well coordinated efforts to provide support for a confused and devastated campus community. Almost immediately, faculty and staff throughout the Institute came together to help students to cope with this tragedy. Signs advertising support services were posted across campus almost immediately after news of the attacks first broke, and MIT's chaplains opened their doors to anyone who needed to talk. The chapel was open for quiet reflection and prayer, and the chaplaincy organized a vigil yesterday evening which allowed community members to come together and share their grief. At the suggestion of Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict, Campus Dining Services even agreed to significantly extend campus dining hours.

Other individuals on campus, such as the organizers and supporters of the blood drive, have acted quickly to give students, faculty, and staff a channel for supporting the victims of this tragedy at a time when blood supplies in New York and Washington, D.C. are dangerously low.

With President Charles M. Vest trapped abroad due to America's grounded airlines, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 led MIT's administrators to action. They should be congratulated for making themselves accessible to students during an exceptionally distressful day. Many made significant personal sacrifices to remain available until late at night.

The number of casualties will only grow in the coming days, and we will not know the full extent of the damage for weeks or even months to come. The support networks established in the past twenty-four hours must be maintained as news of family, friends, and alumni reaches the Institute.

The best support network lies within our own communities. It can be surprisingly helpful to talk to a roommate, a friend, or even an acquaintance from class. Tuesday's vigil provided an opportunity for community members to reach out to one another, and today's gathering in Killian Court should do the same.

Those who are grieving will be searching for someone or something to blame, and it is easy to hypothesize on who could be responsible for this attack. As speculation regarding responsibility runs rampant in the media, MIT students, faculty, and staff must be careful not to alienate members of our own community.

MIT must join the rest of the nation in mourning this tragedy, but at the same time we must press on, supported by the strength of our country and our community.

## Letters To The Editor

It feels callous and almost cruelly indifferent to look beyond today's horrific events. What should be uppermost in our thoughts is the death and loss and destruction.

But when the President of the U.S. and others declare that "we will not let this stand," my heart sinks even lower and I get even more scared.

I'm afraid that will mean more draconian measures in the Mideast against the Palestinians. Didn't American politicians learn anything from Vietnam and from terrorist activities since then? Don't they know that force doesn't stop people who are fighting out of desperation? Don't they understand that it is the oppression of the Palestinians and the disregard of their rights that has created generations of young people who have little hope of a reasonable life and who see terrorism as their only chance?

I'm Jewish and I believe strongly in the need for Israel to exist. Jews have too often been in the situation Palestinians are now in. No one should expect them to give up their land of sanctuary. But Palestinians have similar rights and needs. The answer to terrorism is not more oppression or retaliation, no matter how justified we think it is or how much we might think it will make us feel better. Somehow, no matter what is done to the perpetrators of today's awful crimes, the U.S. needs to work urgently toward a long-term peace in the Mideast, with a settlement that is fair to both Jews and Palestinians.

Mark Breibart  
MIT Information Technology

We, the Muslim students at MIT, strongly condemn the cowardly, terrorist acts committed in New York City and elsewhere in the United States. We are deeply saddened and outraged by the loss of innocent lives resulting from these gratuitous displays of violence, and we offer our condolences to all the folks who will no longer see their loved ones come home. We pray to the Almighty for a speedy recovery of those who have been injured, physically and emotionally, and we urge all law enforcement agencies to bring the perpetrators of these heinous crimes to justice.

Executive Committee  
Muslim Students' Association (MITMSA)

We have all been through a lot lately with the attacks in NYC and DC. God comfort and be with us all through this ordeal. However, to the MIT administration: why did you refuse to close the school and insist that classes should continue on Tuesday? This was a national tragedy never to be forgotten. The best you could come up with was that those with family and friends who are concerned should be excused from class. What kind of stupid policy is that?

Everyone who is an American or who lives in America has lost family and friends because those killed were Americans; that makes them family. An attack was made on public enterprises and establishments. That concerns us all. Are the professors and administrators who had to teach and run things not humans too?

I am sorry if I am out of line, but I do not get it. Why won't we allow a nation and people to mourn its loss because of classes? MIT needs to reconsider its priorities and decision making methods. Pride goeth before a big fall.

Olubukola Afolayan-Jejeloye G

Terrorism, that is what struck America and the MIT Campus today. Today was one of those surreal days that one doesn't quite know how to respond to. And yet we must go on.

Today began for me as I blearily walked down the stairs in search of an open shower. I paid little attention to the group of housemates crowded around the television and proceeded on my way until I noticed that everyone was staring at the television with frozen expressions. I go in, I sit, and I see the World Trade Center fall down on a screen with the title: "Attack on America." No, it's not a movie. Pop, there goes my little comfy bubble of isolation.

It is all too easy to get so caught up in events at MIT that events in the world around us seem to fade in comparison. Yet my concerns with starting that problem set due soon, figuring out what do this weekend, and getting around to a million little details seemed suddenly not to matter quite as much. Thousands of people lost their lives this morning. The symbols of our country's financial and military might were damaged and destroyed. The world has turned upside-down, and yet today I must continue as I did yesterday.

As I walked across the bridge, a Russian friend commented on how the World Trade Center symbolizes America. As I stopped by the student center, I passed a hurried Larry Benedict, who managed a hello despite the worry on his face. On the way to class, I saw somber crowds gathered around televisions on campus, as a friend anxiously whispered me to ask what was going on. As I went to meet my advisor, he was just finishing an e-mail postponing the upcoming problem set for his class. Worry and anxiety pervaded everywhere I went.

On the surface everything looked normal today, everyone did the normal things they did yesterday. And yet, today everything is cast in a new light. Everyone is just a little more serious and a little less comfortable. One could say it's like someone bombed the Pentagon; only it actually happened. Today is a day in history for world-shattering events. And yet, today I am still where I was yesterday, doing what I did yesterday. Terrorism struck today, and I still don't know what to do.

Brad Ito '01

It's hard to imagine what goes through a person's mind when he or she is faced with an unpredictable situation. But today's events go beyond walking into the wrong class or finding out that you don't have enough money to wash your clothes this week. An unexpected occurrence has given every student here a deeper test than those found in 8.01: faith.

The plane hijackings today gave everyone here an in-your-face view of mortality and the darker side of the human psyche. No one here would wake up, walk into an airport and hijack a plane in order to break apart a modern monument. Possibly no one at MIT would, because we'd still be asleep from studying until 1 AM. All kidding aside, these events were extremely random and completely shocking.

Through the shock comes unhappy questions. Why didn't anyone know? Why did this happen? Why can't we do anything but wait for more carnage? All of this anger that I feel right now is just that: raging questions that can never be fully answered. When I see people standing outside of classes waiting for news of survivors, all I can do is hope for the best.

My uselessness makes me feel despair. I know that many people believe in the sanctity of life, which makes me question these events even more. Is this a government conspiracy to aid military spending? Who is behind this after all?

In the face of all this tragedy, I can't even tell a good joke. I can't even laugh because of the heavy heart that I am carrying. Despite all of the anger and despair, I still cling to what I was born knowing.

People are basically good. This tragedy must be a deeper part of the grand scheme of things. Someday, I can move on and help change the world so that things like this will never happen again. Trying to believe in all of my moral tenets takes all the faith I have today.

However, I know that without that kind of faith, this school wouldn't be here. That's why I came here in the first place.

Noelani Kamelamela '05



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# Another Loss Of Innocence

Anders Hove

As I write this, the event, however it comes to be named, is still unfolding here in Manhattan. Indeed, the magnitude of the disaster makes it obvious that it will continue to unfold for years, as we as individuals and as members of society respond, each according to our needs, hopes, and fears.

Watching the faces of people on Fifth Avenue as the second tower collapsed, I was struck by the diversity of our reactions. Screams. Gasps. Swearing. Blank looks. None of us knows how this will ultimately affect us. Workers continued to rush food carts to mid-town lunch meetings as if anyone would care whether the catering arrived on time. Cabs continued to stream downtown as of 11 AM, but no cab driver could know who would need a ride. Flocks of tourists and locals argued with one another about what they saw, about whether they could get where they needed to go, and about whether the US should respond by attacking someone.

Times Square, where I went after hearing of the disaster, was packed with people watching the television screens above the Nasdaq Market Site. The news zipper seemed to be stuck on old news, zipping out the latest gossip on Michael Jordan, while behind, smoke and dust billowed from the downtown area. Thousands of people were milling in the street, while others weaved their way through the crowd as though it were any other day in mid-town Manhattan. At a tourist shop, a panoramic poster showing the Manhattan skyline faced the crowd. The most prominent part of that skyline was now gone.

A part of us is now gone as well. For people of our generation, this event will likely be a defining historical moment. Pearl Harbor has been mentioned, but it's unclear whether any analogy is appropriate. New York's heart has been ripped out and put to flames.

The only thing more shocking than the images on the screen is the thought that our way of life may be unalterably changed as a result of what happened here today. In the past, our society has responded ably to world wars and, during the Cold War, to the threat of global armageddon. How will we, how must we, respond to today's event? Will America go

to war? Will our jobs be secure? Will our civil liberties be safe? Perhaps these too are the wrong questions. We may find ourselves asking instead which of our liberties will be safe.

Perhaps the worst is behind us, perhaps this commentary is premature. Maybe it will be seen as a sign of the panic that gripped this city, where right now doomsday talk is on everyone's lips.

But I know that from this day on, every New Yorker will know where he was this morning. And I know that right now many of us are afraid that even if we are not among those directly affected by the tragedy, our lives will be changed. It is possible that a golden age in our national life, in our world's history, has just passed.

Two months ago, when I moved to this city, I celebrated my new home by going with tourists up to the observation deck of the south tower of the World Trade Center. It was a beautiful sunny day with perfect visibility. You could see out to JFK, and out to Sandy Hook, where the British fleet lay at anchor before the last successful attack on this city, in

1776. I watched the sun set on the Statue of Liberty, the shadow creeping up on her cap. Then I rode up to the 107th floor of the other building and splurged on a glass of wine at the tallest bar in the world. It was a wonderful and secure evening.

When I lived in Washington, DC, my friends and I often talked about terrorism. I always took the side of those who said we could not view ourselves as targets, that we shouldn't go overboard in protecting our national symbols. After the first attack on the World Trade Center in 1993, some said it was the end of innocence. They said the same thing after Oklahoma City. What will we say now?

When Franklin Roosevelt spoke to Congress about Pearl Harbor, he expressed confidence that "we will win through to ultimate victory." As we decide how to respond to what has happened, it will be important to remember our values and our humanity. These are the moments when we show who we are as individuals, and as a society.

Anders Hove '96 is a member of The Tech's Advisory Board.

# The Terror of Not Knowing

Guest Column  
Mike Hall

*"Breaking News: Plane Crashes in Western Pennsylvania."*

Western Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh. My hometown.

I had been watching CNN's live broadcasts from New York and Washington, seeing the replays of the second American Airlines jet crashing through the south World Trade Center tower. I sat shocked, dismayed, but still unbelieving.

"It was like a movie," a friend commented. I couldn't agree more, because that was the only plausible explanation. The towers were falling right before my eyes, but it seemed so distant — like it was a shot from downtown Baghdad or Tel Aviv or another one of those faraway places I heard about in passing on the news.

Then, in one split second, it came all too close.

The news alert flashed on the screen, the announcers began mentioning "Pittsburgh" and "Western Pennsylvania" and "plane crash" all in the same breath. Images flashed through my head. Pittsburgh. Big buildings in Pittsburgh. The Federal Building.

The building where my mom works.

And then it hits. The terror of not knowing. Of seeing American icons crumble on the television, of hearing that those terrorists — those nameless, faceless cowards — had struck your home.

I raced downstairs to the nearest phone, trying to call home, trying to reach someone somewhere who might have answers. Can't

*It's time to find out the names  
and faces of those nameless,  
faceless cowards. Now's the time  
to hit back harder than we've  
ever hit before. Now's the time  
for those nameless, faceless  
cowards to run in fear.*

call Mom, phone lines might be out, want an answer, call Dad, he's not in the city — hands race through pockets, no change! — race to Courses, go to register, get change — no dollar bills, just use a five, you'll need the extra change anyway, long-distance call. Race back to the pay phone, hands shaking, shove the quarters in, remember Dad's work number? No answer, but damn it! Used a 617 area code instead of 412, told you you'd need the extra change. Why the hell would those bastards hit Pittsburgh, anyway? The city's got nothing anymore — call again, shove quarters in, remember 412 this time, hands shaking — phone rings and rings and still rings! But no answer, but Dad always picks up this line, and they're not in the city, so why aren't they picking up... unless they got hit, Michael?

And hang up the phone, pick it up and slam it down down down and just start crying all over the extra quarters.

I headed to the 2nd floor lounge, next to the TV, tapping people's shoulders, asking if they saw where the plane hit in Pennsylvania. No one remembered the name. They would have remembered Pittsburgh if it happened, right? But panic still. Then came relief: the plane hit in Somerset County, miles away from my mom, my dad, my brother, my family. Relief, finally, in the minutes of not knowing.

Those cowards didn't hit my mother yesterday, thank God. But they hit other mothers in Pittsburgh, New York, DC. Other children are left now with the terror of not knowing — or of knowing that the worst is true.

Now is the time to strike back. Now is the time to find out the names and faces of those nameless, faceless cowards. Now is the time to hit back harder than we've ever hit before. Now is the time for those nameless, faceless cowards to run in fear, to tremble when dialing their loved ones, to wash their spare change in their tears.

Now is the time for them to feel the terror of not knowing.

Mike Hall is a member of the class of 2003.



**LADY JUSTICE, THANK GOD YOU ARE BLIND...  
YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE THIS.**

# Anything Is Possible

Philip Burrowes

This nation needs a boogeyman. It was based on a conception of the British as an oppressor, expanded to conquer the western expanse, flourished with the righteous indignation of the World Wars, and surfeited on Cold War stockpiling. Each era in its history features such peaks, but it also exhibits valleys — the Civil War, the Great Depression, Oklahoma City — where elements of the nation seem to cannibalize themselves without an external target. Yet the country is not willing to admit that this is the case, and places the blame on iconoclasts or exogenous factors. Reaction to what transpired Tuesday at the Pentagon, Pennsylvania, and New York City is only one in a long line of such cases of denial.

Although nobody knew what prompted the airplane crashes, terrorists were almost immediately blamed. Even worse, both intelligence officers and security amateurs alike were pointing fingers at specific parties. This was all before any "credible" group laid claim to the action, and in the face of explicit denial from potentially culpable bodies. Palestinian and Afghani officials disavowed the acts, yet media implicated them by citing individual citizens. Congressmen went as far as to declare this a coordinated act of war.

Other explanations do in fact exist. While the possibility of coincidence appears hard to swallow, probability becomes secondary in such extraordinary circumstances as these. Mechanical failure could easily have been responsible for the overshadowed Shanksville crash. Given the military results of a Pentagon attack and the more psychological and financial impact of the World Trade Center's

destruction, different groups could have targeted each. An inside job by the pilots themselves seems too simple, but not impossible.

Nonetheless, a coordinated effort is indeed possible, but possible for numerous factions. The idea of a "rogue state" being involved has been dismissed because the hypothetical international recrimination would be too great. In fact, any retaliation could be along similar lines, and as the backlash against Israel has shown, the aegis of war may no longer be enough to forgive attacks upon state infrastructure. Before that even becomes an issue, the sheer surrealism of suicide bombings on such a grand scale would shield foreign agents from rapid discovery. More importantly, the apparently inexplicable nature of the actions does not lend itself to an ideologically supported war.

Instead, terrorism's inherent uncouthness makes it more palatable to target; relatively few accept terrorism when it calls itself as such. Osama bin Laden is all the more fantastic an enemy, given his supposed track record and general foreignness. By capturing him, America could conceivably wrap up a chapter of its history in which it showed vulnerability in a way not seen since the War of 1812. Never mind that the weakness is largely a result of the country's hubris; "Look at our conspicuous military center, see our tall buildings, watch our news outlets divulge contingencies." Like the Titanic or the Hindenburg, the Twin Towers were doomed to eventual failure.

What is most surprising is that this has not happened more frequently. America's greatest defense for the past half-century has been merely our image. Terrorists avoided American soil; not because they couldn't — the country has large, rather open borders — but

because they would not want to. Should an organization seek to attack from afar, the U.S. was backed by the specter of nuclear defense, allies, and sheer manpower. Truthfully, targeted opponents of the nation — from Cuba to Iraq — have never been quickly and efficiently squelched.

Elsewhere, nations have long been submitted to more pernicious attacks. Germany's Reichstag in 1933, Chile's presidential palace in 1973, and Ayodhya's Babri Masjid in 1992 were all destroyed with far more disastrous results. Guerilla warfare has and will run rampant across the world. Domestic politicians have coded such behavior as barbaric, cowardly, and simply below the United States, yet have consistently proven inefficient in curtailing it. Vietnam and the Sandanistas effectively defeated the U.S.

Selected officials and professionals have claimed an intelligence deficiency, but to what end? One proclaimed that national security is a higher priority than education, a statement which is dubious at best. Bush promised to "hunt down" the perpetrators, although we are led to believe he had no significant leads. We are all scrambling to find an enemy to denounce.

Despite all the ambiguity and posturing, what has transpired is genuinely a tragedy. Whether it happened because of a riot, a plague, or accident, the permutations on casualties of such magnitude are unfathomable for the mortal mind. Perhaps it is this elusiveness of the issue which prompts the fabrication of a guiding force. If people could be content with irrationality, with the unfairness of it all, the species would find itself under the sway of despots. As it is, we are led by demagogues through rhetoric, not force: passion, not ego.



# MIT Extends Support Services

Reaction, from Page 1

ing this tragic time.

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 notified students via e-mail that all classes today will conclude at 3 p.m. Absences will be excused, and some classes may be cancelled based on individual needs.

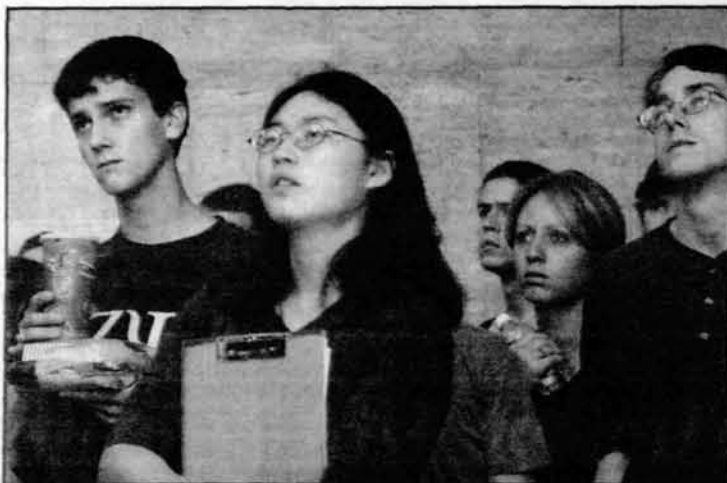
"This is an extraordinary event, and by not closing, the Institute does not mean to suggest that things are normal," Clay said.

Nor did operations run normally yesterday. Several instructors cancelled classes, and the Green Building was closed at the discretion of the Dean of the Science, Prof. Robert J. Silbey. All non-essential personnel were also dismissed from the Lincoln Laboratories yesterday.

## MIT sponsors community events

At 3 p.m. today, MIT students, faculty, and staff are invited to Killian Court "to share our feelings, support each other as members of the community, and draw strength from our common sense of purpose and caring," Clay said.

Today at 5 p.m., MIT's Center for International Studies will host an open forum on yesterday's events, in an effort to help students make sense of what happened. The forum



MIT students watch for news of Tuesday morning's terrorist attacks on the television in Lobby 10.

will be held in Building E38.

Curry said the administration was trying to foster "a heightened sense of awareness" and be "watchful and caring."

"A lot of people are concerned about what they know — namely, there was a terrible tragedy — and what they don't know," Clay said.

## Extended support services offered

MIT offered extended services for students seeking counseling or help

in coping with yesterday's events.

The MIT Chapel was open all day yesterday, and chaplains were available for discussion until 11 p.m. Campus Dining provided beverages, snacks, and a place to congregate last night until 1 a.m.

Counseling and Support Services and MIT Mental Health both held extended hours yesterday.

Administrative offices remain open today, and students can speak to deans as usual.

# Bush Addresses Nation on Attacks

Attack, from Page 1

both federal offices and financial institutions will be open today.

Bush started the day in Florida, but after the attacks flew to military bases in Louisiana and then Nebraska for security reasons before returning to Washington

Tuesday evening. Vice President Dick Cheney and first lady Laura Bush were whisked away to undisclosed locations in the morning, and congressional leaders were temporarily moved to a secure facility 75 miles west of Washington.

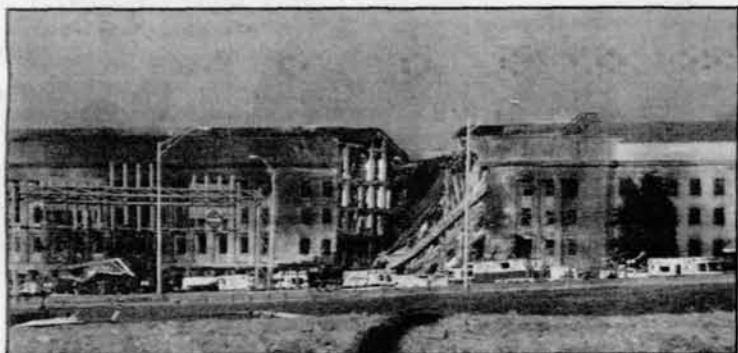
Federal Washington was virtual-

ly paralyzed throughout much of the day, and the rest of the nation came to a near standstill as well. The White House, the Capitol, the Supreme Court, the State Department and the Treasury Department were evacuated, along with federal buildings across the country.

## Bush calls for national unity

In his speech Tuesday night, Bush emphasized the nation's harmony. "A great people have been moved to defend a great nation," Bush said. He warned that "our military is powerful, and it's prepared." In closing, he proclaimed that even amid suffering and death, Americans will remain committed to their freedom-loving way of life.

"This is a day when all Americans from every walk of life unite in our resolve for justice and peace," he said. "America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time."



The Pentagon sustained heavy damage after a plane hijacked in Newark, NJ crashed into the building Tuesday morning.

# Chaplains Organize Community Vigil

Vigil, from Page 1

He urged students to talk to friends, housemasters, Graduate Resident Tutors, Residential Life Associates, and other campus support channels.

"I am especially concerned today that students reach out and talk to each other," Benedict said. "Don't isolate yourselves."

Benedict also announced that there will be a community forum today to continue the conversation started at the vigil, and "to show that we are one community, undivided, and that we face the future together."

Catholic Priest Paul Reynolds, Chair of the Board of Chaplains that helped organize the vigil, was the last to speak. He urged attendees to write a prayer or wish on a piece of paper and drop it into a communal basket. The basket will be placed inside the MIT Chapel for any people who are still interested in adding a prayer.

## Event brings students together

Students attending the vigil

thought the event greatly benefitted the MIT community. "I'm really glad [this event] has brought the school together as a community," said Lei Lei '02. "The best way to deal with this is to have people talk about it and show support."

"Before at MIT, it seemed like people didn't care about anything except their own classes," said Brad M. McCoy '02. "It's really great to see that such a large showing of students came together today."

"It's pretty important as Muslims to stand up for right and wrong," said Mohammad B. Kaleem '02. "We want to make it clear where we stand."

Many students came to the vigil to obtain moral support and comfort.

"MIT has so many alumni and connections in New York City; almost everyone here is affected by this event," Lei said.

"I don't know any people in New York City, but even just the magnitude makes the impersonal loss very substantial," said Vikram Maheshri '03.

## Students turn shock into action

For the most part, it seems that the reactions of most students has been constructive. Students have concentrated on supporting each other and the victims of the tragedy.

"Most people here are more concerned about how to help than getting revenge," said Benazeer S. Noorani '04.

"I have heard a small amount of flying accusations against the Arabs and others, but the responses to these have been mostly blank stares," said Jesse W. Cox '02.

Tanya Reza '04 said that her plans for the night and tomorrow include "supporting friends, talking about the situation, and making sense of things."

"Hopefully there are lots of people taking blood donations tomorrow because I want to donate blood. I don't know what else to do," said John S. Reed G.

Benedict summarized the situation yesterday by saying, "We will get through this, but it will not be business as usual over the next few days."

# Timeline of a Tragedy

- 8:45am: American Airlines Flight 11, scheduled to fly from Boston to Los Angeles, crashes into the north tower of the World Trade Center, tearing a gaping hole in the building and setting it afire.
- 9:03am: A second plane, United Airlines Flight 175, also en route from Boston to LA, crashes into the World Trade Center's south tower and explodes.
- 9:30am: Bush, speaking from Florida, says the country has suffered an "apparent terrorist attack."
- 9:40am: The FAA halts all flight operations at U.S. airports. This is the first time in U.S. history that air traffic nationwide has been halted.
- 9:43am: American Airlines Flight 77 crashes into the Pentagon, creating a huge plume of smoke. Evacuation begins immediately.
- 9:45am: The White House is evacuated.
- 10:05am: The south tower of the World Trade Center collapses.
- 10:10am: A portion of the Pentagon known as the "Army Corridor" collapses.
- 10:10am: United Airlines Flight 93, travelling to San Francisco from Newark, crashes in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, a town southeast of Pittsburgh.
- 10:13am: The United Nations building is evacuated.
- 10:24am: The FAA reports that all inbound transatlantic aircraft flying into the United States are being diverted to Canada.
- 10:28am: The World Trade Center's north tower collapses.
- 10:45am: All federal office buildings in Washington are evacuated.
- 10:45am: MIT administrators meet to develop the Institute's "response to concerns relating to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon."
- 10:50am: Faculty, students, and staff are told to leave Building 54, the tallest building on campus. The decision to evacuate was not made by the MIT administration.
- 10:54am: Israel evacuates all diplomatic missions.
- 11:45am: Citing no apparent threat to the campus, classes remain as scheduled and administrative offices remain open. Lincoln Laboratory dismisses all non-essential personnel.
- 1:27pm: The city of Washington, D.C. declares a state of emergency.
- 1:44pm: The Pentagon announces plans to send five warships and two aircraft carriers from the naval port in Norfolk, Virginia to protect the East Coast from further attack and to reduce the number of ships in port.
- 2:30pm: The FAA announces there will be no U.S. commercial air traffic until noon on Wednesday.
- 4:25pm: The American Stock Exchange, the Nasdaq and the New York Stock Exchange say they will remain closed Wednesday.
- 5:00pm: The MIT Board of Chaplains, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 and Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict lead a gathering to "reflect, mourn, and express words for peace."
- 5:20pm: A third building, the 47-story 7 World Trade Center, collapses. The building was damaged when the twin towers across the street collapsed earlier in the day. Other nearby buildings in the area remain ablaze.
- 6:00pm: Explosions are heard in Kabul, Afghanistan at 2:30am local time. American officials later say that the U.S. had no involvement in the incident. Afghanistan is believed to house Osama bin Laden, who officials believe may be behind the attacks on the U.S. financial and military centers.
- 6:40pm: U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld holds a news conference in the Pentagon, noting the building is operational. "It will be in business tomorrow," he says.
- 6:54pm: Bush arrives at the White House aboard Marine One. The president earlier landed at Andrews Air Force Base with a three-fighter jet escort.
- 8:30pm: President Bush addresses the nation.
- 9:19pm: Chancellor Clay announces that classes on Sept. 12 will end at 3 p.m., at which time the entire MIT community will gather in Killian court.

SOURCES: CNN.COM  
MIT NEWS OFFICE



Former GSC President Soulaymane Kachani G reflects at a vigil held on the Student Center steps following the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks.

## Statement Issued By MIT President Charles Vest

We have been witness to a series of events of unprecedented tragedy and horror in this nation's history. Every one of us has been affected in many ways. Even as we pray for and meditate about the many victims of these unspeakable acts, we must also care for each other and assist each others' family and friends through this troubled time. I want to thank all those who serve the needs of our MIT community and salute those who must deal directly with the death, injury and pain of those in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. Again, my prayers are with all who are touched by this tragedy and I am confident that we will be able to sustain each other through this heart-wrenching time.

*Charles Vest*



MIT's blood drive will resume today from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in La Sala de Puerto Rico in the Student Center.

Updates can be found at [web.mit.edu/blood-drive/www](http://web.mit.edu/blood-drive/www)

Walk-ins are also welcome at 25 Stuart Street in Boston. If you would like more information about blood donation or volunteering, contact Boston's local Red Cross chapter. (617) 375-0700 or [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

